AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace paragraph [0019] with the following amended paragraph [0019]:

[0019] ~~FIG. 1~~ FIGS. 1a-1d. Pancreatic polyamine pools in syngenic and transgenic rats after zinc and methylspermidine. The animals received zinc (10 mg/kg) 24 h before sacrifice without or with methylspermidine (50 mg/kg) either as single dose 4 h before zinc or as two doses 20 h and 4h before zinc. Three to five animals in each group. Me-spd, methylspermidine.

Please replace paragraph [0021] with the following amended paragraph [0021]:

[0021] ~~FIG. 3~~. FIGS. 3a-3d. Histology of pancreas of transgenic rats after zinc and methylspermidine. The animals were treated as in ~~Fig. 1~~ Figs. 1a-1d. Magnification x 125. Figure 3a shows histology of normal pancreas (no zinc induction). The animals received zinc (10mg/kg) 24 h before sacrifice without (Fig. 3b) or with methylspermidine (50 mg/kg) either as single dose 4 h before zinc (Fig. 3c) or as two doses 20 h and 4 h before zinc (Fig. 3d).

Please replace paragraph [0022] with the following amended paragraph [0022]:

[0022] ~~FIG. 4~~. FIGS. 4a-4d. Hepatic polyamine pools in syngenic and transgenic rats after partial hepatectomy and methylspermidine. Methylspermadine (50 mg/kg) was given as a single dose 3 h before partial hepatectomy. Three to five animals in each group. Me-spd, methylspermidine.

Please replace paragraph [0023] with the following amended paragraph [0023]:

[0023] ~~FIG. 5~~. FIGS. 5a-5b. Liver weight (**[[a]]** Fig. 5a) and PCNA labeling index (**[[b]]** Fig. 5b) in syngenic and transgenic rats after partial hepatectomy and

methylspermidine. Three to five animals in each group. *p<0.05, ***p<0.001 as compared with preoperative values. Md-spd, methylspermidine.

Please replace paragraph [0026] with the following amended paragraph [0026]:

[0026] ~~FIG. 8~~. FIGS. 8A-8D. Hepatic polyamine pools in SSAT transgenic rats treated with methylated polyamine analogues without or with MDL72527. The rats were injected twice with MDL72527 (50 mg/kg i.p.) at 16-h interval. The polyamine analogues (25 mg/kg i.p.) were injected 2 and 8 h later. The animals were sacrificed 24 h after the last MDL72527 injection. **[[They]]** There were three to four animals in each group. Put, putrescine; Ac-Spd, N^1-acetylspermidine; Spd, spermidine; Me-Spd, α-methylspermidine; Me-Spm, α-methylspermine; Bis-Me-Spm, bis-α-methylspermine. *p<0.05, ***p<0.001 as compared with untreated animals.

Please replace paragraph [0027] with the following amended paragraph [0027]:

[0027] ~~FIG. 9~~. FIGS. 9A-9B. Effect of polyamine analogues without or with MDL72527 on hepatic SSAT (**[[A]]** Fig. 9A) and PAO (**[[B]]** Fig. 9B) activities in SSAT transgenic rats. The rats were treated with the drugs as described in the legend for ~~Fig. 8~~ Figs. 8A-8D. There were three to four animals in each group. Me-Spd, α-methylspermidine; Me-Spm, α-methylspermine; Bis-Me-Spm, bis-α-methylspermine. *p<0.05, ***p<0.001as compared with untreated animals.